

**Child Welfare Advisory Committee
Permanency Subcommittee
July 23, 2008
Meeting Summary**

NOTE: Next meeting is August 18, 2008 from 11:00 am -- 1:00pm in Des Moines

Subcommittee members present: George Belitsos (co-chair); Dick Moore (co-chair); Nancy Magnall and Margaret Wright; members absent: Kathleen Penkert, Kathleen Kilnosky and Miriam Landsman.

Adding additional members: Mary Nelson had originally planned on being a member of this subcommittee, but needed to step down. Margaret Wright has agreed to represent Mary's division as a member of this subcommittee. The subcommittee agreed to contact the following people to invite them to become members: Kelly Malone with KidsNet and Ann Harmon with the Coalition for Family and Children Services in Iowa (George to contact both); Ruth Phylits with CFI/Elevate and a youth member Mande Phylits (Nancy to contact both); Becky Godfrey with Community Partnerships for the Protection of Children and a DHS line staff or line staff supervisor (Margaret to contact Becky and inquire about recruiting DHS field staff person).

Subcommittee purpose: Subcommittee members agreed on the following purpose statement: *The purpose of this subcommittee is to look at several factors where permanency is a concern. These include but are not limited to: children aging out of the system; children that are not adopted; parent-child visitations; subsidized adoptions; kinship care; safety, risk and protective services' impact and outcomes; and family finding strategies. The subcommittee will look at the challenges to permanency for these populations and work to develop potential solutions.*

Prioritization of issues: Subcommittee members agreed on two issues to receive priority attention with a goal of developing findings and recommendations by October, 2008. Priority One: Children Aging Out of the System and the Preparation for Adult Living Skills (PALS) program funding; Priority Two: Parent-Child Visitations. It was agreed that other specific issues to address and timeframes for their examination will be determined with input from other subcommittee members at the next meeting.

Information and Resources: To assist the subcommittee begin addressing the above priorities and develop plans for other study issues/action steps, Margaret offered to prepare one-page overviews of the factors/study areas identified in the subcommittee purpose statement. It was clarified that a PALS program one-page briefing paper would be in addition to a broader overview of the "children aging out of the system" study area. The briefing pages will be distributed to all members and be discussion aides at the subcommittee's next meeting

Next Meeting: It was agreed to hold the next meeting (a working lunch) in Des Moines on August 18th from 11:00pm -- 1:00pm. Margaret offered to find a meeting location and look into lunch arrangements. Dick will send an agenda and meeting logistics information when the location is known.